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WING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1967

## LIST OF PARISHES IN THE COUNCIL'S AREA

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Aston Abbotts

Cheddington

Cublington

Edlesborough, including Dagnall and Northall

Great Brickhill

Grove

Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston

Marsworth

Mentmore

Pitstone

Slapton, including Horton

Soulbury

Stoke Hammond

Wing

Wingrave and Rowsham

1967  
WING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

J. M. Raven, Esq.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

H. F. Broad, Esq.

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Members

Mrs. Y. L. L. de Rothschild  
Mrs. M. G. Brettell  
Mrs. P. P. Brown  
Mrs. S. M. Hailey  
Mrs. F. Shand Kydd  
Mrs. V. E. Banfield  
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I. T. E. Gadsden, Esq.  
D. W. Linford-Jones, Esq.  
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R. H. Tompkins, Esq.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. W. Pringle, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. F. Slocombe, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. E. Thompson, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.H.

## WING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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To the Chairman and Members  
of Wing Rural District Council.

“ Brooklands,”  
Leighton Road,  
LINSLADE,  
Leighton Buzzard

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics for the year 1967.

The statistics show marginal improvements in several respects; the birth rate is raised, although still slightly lower than that for England and Wales, and the infant mortality rate is reduced. By an odd coincidence exactly the same number of deaths were notified but due to a small increase in population the death rate is lower. Again there were no maternal deaths.

The opening of the Bletchley Maternity Hospital allowed more mothers from the north of the District to have their babies in hospital. Also a scheme to admit mothers for delivery only was introduced there and at the Royal Bucks Hospital. This is the so-called 48 hours' admission for delivery in normal cases who require this for social or other reasons. On discharge they are handed over to the care of the domiciliary nursing services for the remainder of their confinement. The scheme has resulted in an increased turnover in the use of the available maternity beds and is apparently appreciated by mothers who for social reasons could not easily be delivered at home.

There was a small increase in the number of illegitimate births. It will be interesting to see what effect if any, the proposed Abortion Act will have in this respect, and also the National Health Service (Family Planning) Act 1967 which extended the categories of women who might be referred to family planning clinics.

### FOOD HYGIENE

The circumstances of every local case of food poisoning are reported fully to the Ministry of Health, and recent statistics based on these reports show a more encouraging national picture. In 1957 there were 7,071 outbreaks, involving 15,100 cases and 36 deaths. In 1966 there were 3,744 outbreaks, involving 8,784 cases and 26 deaths. These figures are still intolerably high, but they show a steady decline in incidence and encourage those of us who place our hopes in supervision of food handlers, control of outbreaks and education of the general public. One case of food poisoning due to *Salmonella typhimurium* at Wing was notified during the year.

The *Salmonella* group of organisms, which infects both man and animals, is the largest single group of food poisoners, and over ten-year period shows the least decline. Eventual control of this group will depend on close co-operation between the veterinary profession and ourselves, as a recent outbreak in the area has illustrated. If the farmer and his family become infected from the cattle it clearly requires a combined operation to deal effectively with



the situation, and needless to say, the general practitioner must be kept fully informed. There is the further complication that imported meat and animal feeding stuffs, which are infected, occasionally slip through for distribution in spite of bacteriological testing of samples at the port of entry. However, with a reduction of 58 % in the number of cases of food poisoning over the last ten-year period, there are grounds for hope that present methods of control are working, however slowly.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

Two new cases of tuberculosis were notified and a resident of the District, aged 61 years died of the disease in a London Hospital. It is well recognised that immigrants of certain nationalities are more prone to develop the disease than the native population. They are required to state their initial destination in the United Kingdom at the port of entry and the address is forwarded so that an early visit can be made. As a result of discussions with the County Chest Physician some alterations have been made in the scheme for detection of tuberculosis in recently-arrived immigrants. Where previously the immigrant was urged when first visited to register as soon as possible with a general practitioner who would consider if chest x-ray was necessary, he is now given a fixed appointment for himself and family to attend the chest clinic. Very few appointments have failed, and, if they have, a further home visit has been made. There is the additional advantage that the children can be skin tested and given B.C.C. vaccination, if necessary, at the Clinic. Very few give an address in this District at present.

## **OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

For the second year running there was an epidemic of measles. It seems certain that a start will be made in vaccination against measles during the coming year. Only children who have not had the disease will require vaccination, and in view of the high infection rate in recent years, there should not be very many, in the school age group at least, who will require this. If measles can be prevented it will be of enormous benefit to children and parents alike, and my hard worked colleagues in general practice will certainly heave a sigh of relief.

During November, four people in the District were reported by the Ministry of Health to have been in contact with a suspected case of smallpox in a cafe on the M1. All were traced and vaccinated but in the event laboratory tests showed that the suspected case had not got smallpox.

One case of animal anthrax was reported during March. The farm was visited and the risk of infection explained to those who had contact with the infected animal. A man living outside the District was admitted to Stoke Mandeville Hospital with human anthrax. It was thought that he got the condition by handling infected straw.

I would like to thank you again for your continued advice and support throughout the year, and to acknowledge the willing help received from the staff of the Health Department.

I am, Your obedient Servant,  
A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health*

(A) VITAL STATISTICS

	1966	1967
Area in acres .. .. .	36,502	36,502
Population .. .. .	9,600	9,650
Number of Habitable Houses .. ..	3,385	3,535
Rateable Value .. .. .	£384,219	£427,855
Sum represented by a penny rate ..	£1,550	£1,800
BIRTHS		
Legitimate Males .. .. .	66	85
„ Females .. .. .	74	69
Illegitimate Males .. .. .	5	1
„ Females .. .. .	—	8
Stillbirths .. .. .	3	—
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	15.9	16.7
„ „ „ „ „ (Bucks)	18.9	18.1
„ „ „ „ „ (Eng. & Wales)	17.7	17.2
DEATHS		
Males .. .. .	51	51
Females .. .. .	49	49
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	10.4	10.2
„ „ „ „ „ (Bucks)	9.2	8.9
„ „ „ „ „ (Eng. & Wales)	11.7	11.2
Maternal Mortality Rate .. ..	Nil	Nil
„ „ „ (Bucks) ..	0.10	0.20
„ „ „ (Eng. & Wales)	Not Available	Not Available
Infantile Mortality Rate.. ..	19.6	12.3
„ „ „ (Bucks) ..	16.9	15.7
„ „ „ (Eng. & Wales)	19.0	18.3
CAUSES OF DEATH		
Cancer .. .. .	18	14
Heart Disease .. .. .	35	45
Pneumonia .. .. .	11	8
Bronchitis .. .. .	4	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System..	2	2
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	28	24
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	—	3
All Other Accidents .. .. .	—	—
Suicide .. .. .	2	1
Tuberculosis .. .. .	—	1
TOTAL	100	100



## (B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford. Specimens for qualitative and quantitative analysis had to be sent to London.

### 2. AMBULANCE SERVICES

These are provided by the Bucks County Council, and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer. Eleven ambulances and five dual purpose vehicles were available at the Ambulance Headquarters, Buckingham Road, for use in the Borough and surrounding districts. There is two-way radio link between all vehicles and Headquarters. The majority of long distance journeys are carried out by train, stretcher cases being accommodated in reserved compartments. All casualties are conveyed to the Casualty Department at the Royal Bucks Hospital.

### 3. CHILD WELFARE

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Times Open</i>	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Total No. of Children Attending During Year</i>	<i>M.O. Attends</i>
Edlesborough	12	3rd Monday	82	Each Session
Wingrave	12	4th Monday	51	Each Session
Ivinghoe	23	2nd & 4th Tuesday	124	Each Session
Wing	24	1st & 3rd Friday	90	1st Friday
Cheddington	12	3rd Tuesday	84	Each Session

<i>Mobile</i>	<i>Times Open</i>	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Total No. of Children Attending During Year</i>
Slapton	12	1st Tuesday	20
Marsworth	12	1st Tuesday	23
Great Brickhill	12	1st Friday	31
Stoke Hammond	10	4th Monday	29
Ivinghoe	12	1st Tuesday	13

There was a total of 547 attending these Clinics. Besides advice on health of infants and toddlers given to individual mothers, there were talks on a variety of health subjects for groups at the Clinics. Courses of immunisation against smallpox, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus were available or could be given by the family doctor. Almost all parents who attended the Clinics were anxious that their children should have the maximum immunity against these diseases, but there was still a minority of the population who failed to take this advantage.

#### 4. CHEST CLINICS

Under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department, clinics are maintained at Tindal Hospital, Aylesbury and at Bletchley. Sessions are held weekly and are attended by a Specialist in Chest Diseases. The work of these clinics is invaluable in the control of, and prevention of the spread of Tuberculosis.

#### 5. HOSPITALS

(a) Infectious Diseases—Cases were admitted to the following Hospitals:

Isolation Hospital, Aylesbury. Isolation Hospital, Spittlesea.

(b) Tuberculosis—Cases are admitted to the Tindal General Hospital and Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard.

(c) General—General cases were admitted to the following Hospitals during the year:

Tindal General Hospital, Aylesbury

Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury

Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury

Luton and Dunstable General Hospital

Accident cases to the Royal Bucks Casualty Department.

#### 6. DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, AND POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer these services.

#### 7. TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

#### (C) PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATIONS	1966	1967
Measles .. .. .	122	226
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	3	7
Whooping Cough .. .. .	10	5
Pneumonia .. .. .	—	—
Tuberculosis .. .. .	—	2
Others .. .. .	—	1

A. W. PRINGLE,  
*Medical Officer of Health*



“ Brooklands,”  
LINSLADE,  
Leighton Buzzard

To the Chairman and Members  
of Wing Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector for the year 1967.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. E. THOMPSON, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.H.  
*Surveyor and Public Health Inspector*

## **(D) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA**

### **1. WATER SUPPLY**

The Bucks Water Board, of which the Rural District Council are a constituent authority, have continued to supply mains water to every Parish and every hamlet except Mentmore village which has its own private estate supply, Grove Hospital which has its supply from Mid Beds Water Board and a few properties near the Hertfordshire border which have piped supplies from the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. All these supplies are regularly sampled and generally found to be satisfactory. Only 41 isolated houses have to depend on their own private wells for domestic water supply.

### **2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

The Regional scheme for sewerage Edlesborough and Northall with Eaton Bray and other adjoining villages in Luton Rural District has now been commenced and a Contract signed for the necessary sewer laying in this Rural District. This Contract is timed to commence in June 1968 and be completed in twelve months.

At Wing larger pumps have been installed to cope with the additional drainage from the new development areas in Littleworth and tenders have been re-invited for enlargement of the Cublington Road sewage treatment works.

The scheme for enlarging the Wingrave works to sewer the new development planned for that village is under preparation and will also include for the treatment of certain farm wastes.

Now that the Village Plan for Cheddington has been prepared and published consideration must be given to the improvement of the Treatment plant at Marsworth.

### 3. REFUSE COLLECTION

Household Refuse is now collected from all villages by nine men on three vehicles, but the growth of the District and increased volume of the refuse collected means that the ideal of a weekly collection has not yet been attained.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at three tips all of which are almost filled. The Council has agreed to lease the disused chalk quarry at Ivinghoe Aston but the arrangements to do so have not yet been completed. Levelling and covering of the refuse with soil continues to be the major problem.

No formal action was needed to deal with any filthy or verminous premises.

### 4. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no public swimming baths in the District, but by arrangement with the G.L.C. the swimming bath at Stockgrove Park School is used very considerably by schools and youth organisations.

## (E) HOUSING

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Seven applications for Discretionary Improvement Grant were received and approved. Standard grant applications numbered 20. The Housing Act 1964 is encouraging more improvement, the increased Standard Grant largely replacing the Discretionary Grant.

The Council's houses all have bathrooms.

Number of Council Houses completed during year	..	50
Number of private houses completed during year	..	69
Number of Council Houses under construction at end of year	.. .. .	Nil
Number of private Houses under construction at end of year	.. .. .	78

Action taken under the Housing Acts includes:

(a) Number of houses found to be unfit	.. ..	1
(b) Number of houses closed	.. .. .	—
(c) Number of houses demolished	.. ..	5
(d) Number of Statutory notices to repair houses	..	—
(e) Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action	.. .. .	11
(f) Number of houses made fit after Statutory Notices:		
	(i) by Owner	21
	(ii) by Council	—
(g) Number of families rehoused	.. .. .	Nil
(h) Common Lodging Houses—There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Rural District.		



**(F)****FOOD**

No Brucella or other infection was encountered in milk sampled during the year, all other being up to required standard. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Rural District.

<b>Bakehouses</b>					1967
(i) Number on register	..	..	..	..	3
(ii) Fitted to comply with regulation 16	..	..	..	..	3
(iii) Regulation 19 applies to	..	..	..	..	3
(iv) Fitted to comply with regulation 19	..	..	..	..	3
<b>Licensed Houses</b>					
(i) Number on register	..	..	..	..	38
(ii) Fitted to comply with regulation 16	..	..	..	..	36
(iii) Regulation 19 applies to	..	..	..	..	38
(iv) Fitted to comply with regulation 19	..	..	..	..	36
<b>Retail Stores</b>					
(i) Number on register	..	..	..	..	33
(ii) Fitted to comply with regulation 16	..	..	..	..	33
(iii) Regulation 19 applies to	..	..	..	..	15
(iv) Fitted to comply with regulation 19	..	..	..	..	12
<b>Cafes and Canteens</b>					
(i) Number on register	..	..	..	..	9
(ii) Fitted to comply with regulation 16	..	..	..	..	9
(iii) Regulation 19 applies to	..	..	..	..	9
(iv) Fitted to comply with regulation 19	..	..	..	..	9
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	3
<b>Ice Cream Retailers</b>					
Number on Register at end of year	..	..	..	..	28
New licences granted during the year	..	..	..	..	Nil

**(G)****RODENT CONTROL**

The Council employ a Rodent Operative to carry out this work jointly under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors of Wing and Winslow R.D.C.'s.

Number of properties inspected	..	..	..	1,263
Number of treatments carried out	..	..	..	237
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	Nil

All the Council's sewage disposal and refuse tips were treated regularly and sewer treatments were carried out at Cheddington, Great Brickhill, Marsworth, Wing and Wingrave. Test baiting proved negative in the other villages.

**(H)****MEAT AND OTHER FOODS**

One slaughterhouse is in use in the District and the meat is regularly inspected by qualified Meat Inspectors. (see Table below)

Licences to slaughter animals during the year	..	..	..	3
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MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part						
	Cattle		Sheep and		Horses	
	Excluding		Lambs		Pigs	
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ..	3427	167	120	7332	4214	—
Number inspected ..	3427	167	120	7332	4214	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	736	3	—	566	327	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	21.53	1.79	—	7.72	7.76	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	2	—	—	—	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	33	—	—	20	15	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	1.02	Nil	Nil	0.27	0.43	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meat and Offal Condemned						
Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	639 lbs.		
Other Diseases ..	..	..	..	24,771 lbs.		

# (I) FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>No. of Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	28	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	25	12	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	52	40	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which **Defects** were found.

<i>Particulars</i> (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Reme- died</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	—	—	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	Nil
TOTAL	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

1967

3. Number of Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	27
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**Petroleum Acts and Orders**

Registered number of licenses	..	..	..	..	43
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Storage capacity 500 gallons or less	..	..	..	24
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Storage capacity between 500 and 1,000 gallons	..	8
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Storage capacity over 1,000 gallons	..	..	..	11
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All underground storage tanks more than 20 years old have been tested to Home Office requirements or replaced.

**Moveable Dwellings**

Number of licensed sites	..	..	..	..	..	16
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Individual caravans:

(a) Occupied temporarily for housing	..	..	14
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(b) Used occasionally	..	..	..	..	2
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Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	..	16
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Nuisances found to exist	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
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Temporary Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
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W. E. THOMPSON,

*Public Health Inspector*





